

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/852,609	SERRANO-MORALES ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael B. Holmes	2121	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to July 22, 2004.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-10, 12, 14-22 and 24.
3. The drawings filed on 10 September 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 08242004
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 - www.uspto.gov

Examiner's Detailed Office Action

1. Claims 2-10, 12, 14-22, 24 are allowed.
2. Claims 1, 11, 13, and 23 have been canceled.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. The following is an Examiner's statement for reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art *Aldrich* (USPN 6,615,198), *Karch* (USPN 6,442,537), *Gross et al.* (USPN 5,283,856), *Gross et al.* (USPN 5,555,346), *Gross et al.* (USPN 5,802,253), *Schutzman et al.* (USPN 5,627,764) does not teach or render obvious applicant's claimed invention.

Specifically, applicant's invention describes an a novel approach for assembling rules applications by re-using rules. The approach is based on a system that uses templates that describe a structure for rules. According to an aspect of the present invention, a group of rule templates defines a rule structure for rules that may be executed by a rules engine. Separate ruleflow templates define tasks that entail the execution of rules. Each of the ruleflow templates associates a task with the group of rule templates. Because the ruleflow templates define the association be-

tween the tasks and the group of rule templates, during execution of the tasks a rules engine executes rules defined by the group of templates.

Finally, user interfaces are automatically generated based on the group of rule templates.

A user may interact with the user interfaces to edit the rules defined by the group of templates.

After editing the rules, executing the tasks associated with the group of templates will cause execution of the modified rules.

With regards to claim 2, *Aldrich, Karch, Gross et al., & Schutzman et al.* does not disclose “ *... generating a set of rules based on said first template, wherein said association between said first task and said first template causes execution of said set of rules by said rules engine while executing said first task ... generating a second template describing an association with said first task and said first template includes the step of generating a second template that describes an association between said first task and a template group that includes said first template.*”

With regards to claim 12, *Aldrich, Karch, Gross et al., & Schutzman et al.* does not disclose “ *... said association between said second task and said group of templates causes execution of said set of rules by said rules engine while executing said second task ... and after modifying said set of rules, executing said first task and said second task, wherein executing said first task and said second task after modifying said set of rules causes execution of the modified set of rules.*”

With regards to claim 14, *Aldrich, Karch, Gross et al., & Schutzman et al.* does not disclose “ *... generating a second template describing a first set of tasks that includes a first task and an association with said task and said first template ... the step of generating a second*

template describing an association with said first task and said first template includes the step of generating a second template that describes an association between said first task and a template group that includes said first template.”

With regards to claim 24, *Aldrich, Karch, Gross et al., & Schutzman et al.* does not disclose “ *... generating a second set of rules based on said group of templates wherein said association between said first task and said group of templates causes execution of said set of rules by said rules engine while executing said first task and wherein said association between said second task and said group of templates causes execution of said set of rules by said rules engine while executing said second task ... and after modifying said set of rules, executing said first task and said second task, wherein executing said first task and said second task after modifying said set of rules causes execution of the modified set of rules.”*

Correspondence Information

4. Any inquires concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Michael B. Holmes** who may be reached via telephone at **(703) 308-6280**. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. est. If you need to contact the Examiner, regarding After Final concerns, please send it to **(703) 746-7238**. If you need to send an Official facsimile transmission, please send it to **(703) 746-7240**. If you need to send a Non-Official or Draft facsimile transmission, please send it to **(703) 746-7239**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the **Examiner's Supervisor, Anthony Knight**, may be reached at **(703) 308-3179**.

Any response to this office action should be mailed too:

Director of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231, or Hand-delivered
responses should be delivered to the **Receptionist, located on the fourth floor of**
Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive Arlington, Virginia.

Michael B. Holmes

Patent Examiner
Artificial Intelligence
Art Unit 2121

United States Department of Commerce
Patent & Trademark Office



Anthony Knight
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3600